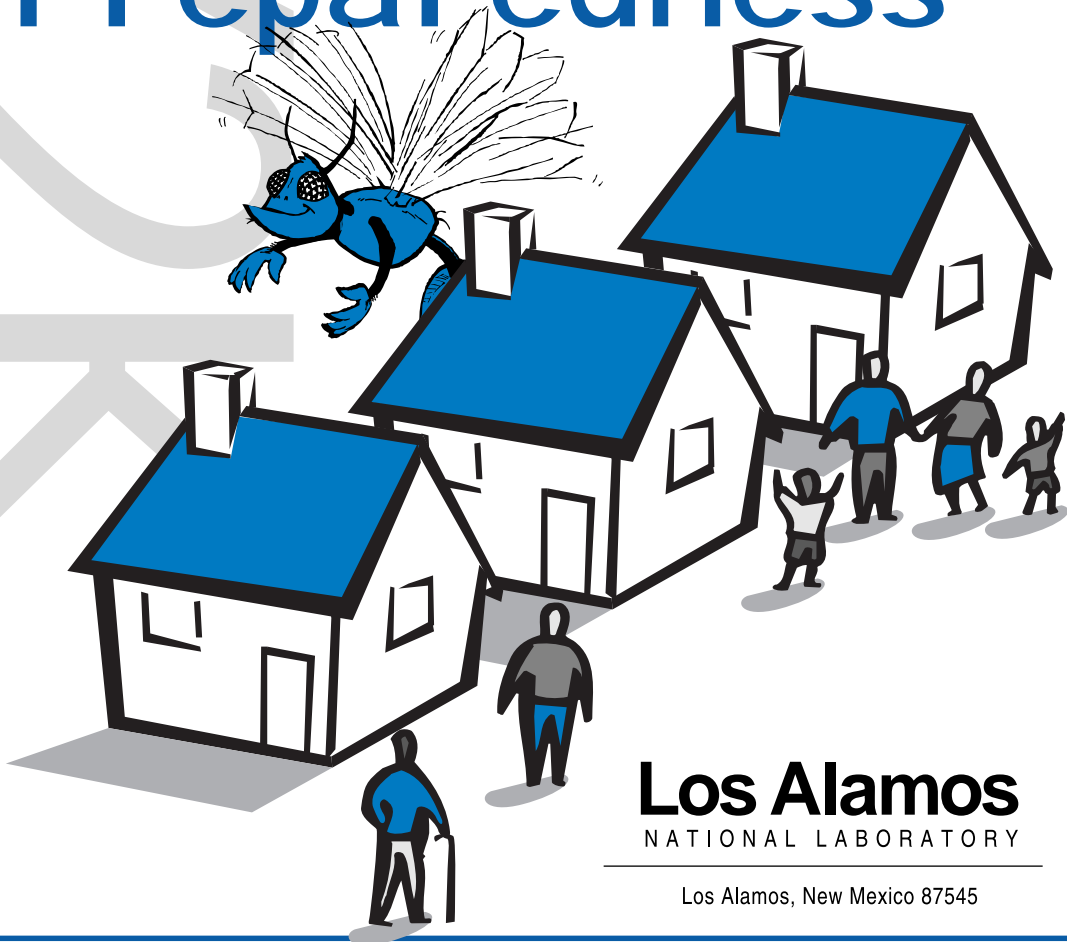


# Year 2000: Personal Preparedness



**Los Alamos**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

# Year 2000: Personal Preparedness

Los Alamos National Laboratory, local municipalities, and service providers have been working hard on the Year 2000 computer issue to avoid any disruptions that could result from the “00” date rollover. One great advantage is that the Year 2000 computer date rollover is a known event. You can also plan ahead for the Year 2000 in your personal life.

It is generally accepted that, if anything, the United States will have “minor local disruptions” rather than massive nationwide power outages, communication blackouts, or supply shortages. But because New Mexico has been spared the pattern of natural disasters, such as floods, tornadoes, and blizzards that require routine preparations for temporarily “living without” common in other parts of the country, we offer reminders of how to personally prepare for possible disruption of basic services. However, your level of personal preparedness is your own decision, and each situation is unique.

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This brochure includes the following:

1. Tips on how to prepare for possible interruption of basic services
2. Supplies to have on hand
3. Local services contacts for Los Alamos, Santa Fe, and Espanola
4. Links to community preparedness Web sites

## Laboratory Plan

- The Laboratory is developing a Year 2000 business continuity and contingency plan.  
If there is no power, the Laboratory will remain closed, except for emergency and facility personnel.
- Most divisions will have their own Year 2000 contingency plans.
- The Laboratory payroll system has been updated and is fully Year 2000 compliant. Just in case of possible power loss, the January 13, 2000, payroll will be processed before December 31.
- The Laboratory is coordinating its Year 2000 emergency plans with Los Alamos County and other service providers.

# What to do if basic services are interrupted



## Loss of electricity

- Turn off and unplug televisions, computers, and all other electronics if there is a power outage. Plug them back in after the power is back on. (The resumption of power could cause a power spike that might damage appliances.)
- If you have a generator, don't hook it to the main power supply (fuse box). Plug your devices into the generator; don't plug the generator into the house.



## Loss of gas

- If the gas service is disrupted, and then resumed, your gas service provider will be aware of the situation and will relight pilots.



## Heating alternatives

- Use only devices that are in good working order and designed and intended by the manufacturer to be used for heating enclosed areas. Gas and charcoal grills are not intended to be used as sources of heat. The operation of a grill in an enclosed area could cause a buildup of carbon monoxide or a fire that could be dangerous to your health or your life.
- It is widely advised not to store petrofuels. This is potentially very dangerous. If you do have small amounts of fuel, it should be kept outdoors, in containers designed for this purpose, and accurately labeled.



## Food/Water

- Have on hand a food supply for 3-5 days, primarily food that does not require refrigeration or cooking other than reheating. This might include canned and dried foods, and items such as peanut butter, bread, cereals, granola bars, crackers, and cookies.
- Do not use gas or charcoal grills or camp stoves to cook indoors.
- Store 1 gallon drinking water per person per day and 2-3 gallons per person per day for hygiene, enough for 3-5 days. Label containers with the date filled or purchased.



## Hygiene

- Water from a full bathtub can be used to flush the toilet. If there is no power, do not use the toilet. Use alternate toilet facilities (5-gallon bucket with lid, trash bags, Clorox)



## Communications (Telephone, television, computers, radios)

- A good part of the world will experience the date rollover before New Mexico does. CNN and other news broadcasts will give us early warning of possible trouble.
- If there are outages, listen to local radio stations using a battery-powered radio.



## Medical Emergencies

- Avoid using the hospital or other emergency services unless you have a true emergency.
- Ensure 1-week supply of prescription drugs for people and pets.
- Inventory and update your first aid supplies.



## Neighborhood

- Stay in touch with your neighbors, especially the elderly and families with young children. Remember that 30% of the residents of Los Alamos County are retired.
- Know your neighborhood emergency plans.



## Transportation

- Conserve gasoline as much as possible (share rides with your neighbors; drive only when necessary; gas can't be pumped if there is no electricity).
- Keep the gasoline tanks in your cars full.



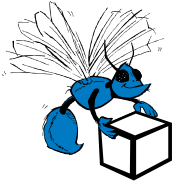
## Financial/Medical Records

- Get up-to-date records (e.g., insurance, bank statements, medical records) before December 31 in case you need to reconcile and protect them.
- Make sure your insurance is up to date.



## ...don't forget entertainment!

- Games and toys (nonelectric) for kids (and adults) and lots of reading material.



## Supplies to have on hand

- ☐ Flashlights with fresh batteries
- ☐ Hand-operated can opener
- ☐ Nonperishable food for 3-5 days, including food for your pets
- ☐ Warm clothing, blankets, and sleeping bags
- ☐ Bottled water (1 gallon drinking water per person per day and 2-3 gallons of wash water per person per day, enough for 3-5 days)
- ☐ First aid supplies
- ☐ Prescription medicines
- ☐ Full tanks of gas in your vehicles
- ☐ Battery-powered radio
- ☐ Paper plates, cups, and other paper and plastic supplies, such as plastic utensils, garbage bags, and toilet paper
- ☐ Battery-operated carbon monoxide detector and smoke detector

# All Emergencies: Dial 911 (Los Alamos, Santa Fe, and Espanola)

## Utilities and Services

Utility/ Service	Los Alamos	Santa Fe	Espanola*
Police	Nonemergency: 662-8222.	473-5057. Nonemergency after 5:00 pm and on weekends: 473-5080.	Dispatch: 753-5555. Chief of Police (Marie Castaneda, secretary): 747-6002.
Fire	Nonemergency: 662-0301. If no answer, call 667-4055. White Rock station: 672-9191.	Administration: 984-6570. Nonemergency after 5:00 pm and on weekends: 438-5144.	Fire Chief: 753-6181.
Public Utilities (water, waste water, solid waste)	Customer service: 662-8130. After hours, weekends, and holidays: 662-8222.	Sangre de Cristo Water Customer Assistance: 982-3700. Report trouble after hours, weekends, and holidays: 473-3210.	Public works: 753-6880. After hours, weekends, and holidays: 753-5555.
Gas	All Los Alamos utilities are operated by the County. Customer service: 662-8130. After hours, weekends, and holidays: 662-8222.	PNM emergencies: 471-2300. After hours and holidays: 471-2300. If no answer, call 471-2301.	PNM 753-2366 After 5:00 pm, weekends, and holidays: 753-2366. Emergency (24-hr): 800-282-1732.
Electricity	Customer service: 662-8130. After hours, weekends, and holidays: 662-8222.	PNM 24-hour emergency: 950-1830.	PNM: 753-2366 After 5:00 pm, weekends, and holidays: 753-2366. Emergency (24-hr): 800-282-1732.
Telephone	US West residential service: 800-244-1111. Repair (24 hrs.): 800-573-1311.	US West residential service: 800-244-1111. Repair (24 hrs.): 800-573-1311.	GTE West residential repair (24 hr): 800-483-1000

\* The City of Espanola is switching to a new phone system, and numbers are changing. Main switchboard is 747-6100.

# Year 2000 Community Preparedness Web Sites

Federal Emergency Management Agency

<http://www.fema.gov/y2k/bltn00.htm>

Red Cross

<http://www.redcross.org/Y2K.html>

Federal links to community preparedness Web sites

<http://www.gsa.gov/irms/ka/mks/yr2000/action.htm#action>

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<http://www.lanl.gov/projects/ia/year2000>

**667-9337**

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